



Water Quality Working Group

Meeting Minutes

Date: 06/02/11

Start Time: 1:00 pm

End Time: 3:00 pm

Meeting Method: Go-To-Meeting/Conference Call at island-specific sanctuary offices

Attendance

Maui: Robin Newbold (SAC – Maui County Representative and Chair, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council), Patty Miller (Sanctuary Maui Island Coordinator), Irene Bowie (Exec Dir, Maui Tomorrow Foundation), Jay Carpio (Fisherman), Maile Carpio (HOLON, LLC), and Mary Jorgensen (Senior Planner, County of Maui, Department of Planning, Long Range Division)

Kaua'i: Jean Souza (Sanctuary Kaua'i Island Coordinator)

O'ahu: Joe Paulin (Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator and Staff Lead), Collin Crecco (NOAA Hollings Scholar), Malia Chow (Sanctuary Superintendent)

Lana'i: Sol Kaho'ohalahala

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Joe started with presentation and discussion regarding other sanctuary water quality programs. Sanctuaries that were discussed included the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. A discussion followed about the possibility of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary becoming an ecosystem-based sanctuary. Current regulations for the sanctuary pertain directly to humpback whales and not the ecosystem as a whole.

The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary have no discharge regulations prohibiting discharges in state and federal waters within the sanctuary. There are also pump-out stations located within the sanctuary. Their website - water quality programs and monitoring were also discussed.

Other sanctuaries that take an ecosystem-based approach to management were also discussed and included the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

Working group members stated that it will be important to move in the direction of establishing vessel discharge regulations and to move away from a sanctuary that is focused on only a single species.



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Enforcement and monitoring are other issues to consider. Within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, the EPA has a mandated role. Looking at the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, they work with many agencies and organizations on water quality-related programs. They also provide a very in-depth website for a water quality plan.

The group would like to collaborate with representatives of other sanctuaries and get input from them.

A water quality awareness month and improvements on monitoring could be helpful in achieving better water quality within the sanctuary.

Working groups have agreed to move forward and consider potential roles for the sanctuary for an ecosystem-based management approach.

The group also stated that they should get recommendations and advice from other National Marine Sanctuary programs, but they still need to recognize the fact that Hawaii is very unique and needs to consider cultural aspects.

The water quality matrix was also reviewed.

Next Meeting: June 30th at 12:00 PM

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Action items:

Modification of matrix:

For Robin Newbold:

Appoint Robin Knox to modify the matrix and titles like pharmaceuticals

In addition to frequency of occurrence, look at magnitude and duration in matrix

Combine titles "Current Level of Implementation (what actions are being taken)" and "Current Actions" because too similar

For Malia Chow:

Contact superintendant of Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. Ask about water quality issues they deal with.

For workgroup members:



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Send matrix edits to Joe Paulin and he can compile and organize information.
Send in questions for Monterey Bay presentation to Joe Paulin by June 9th.

For Joe Paulin:

Contact Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff about participating in the next meeting